

## **REMARKS**

This Preliminary Amendment is being filed under 37 C.F.R. § 1.53(b) concurrently with a divisional application of U.S. Serial No. 09/563,946 filed May 2, 2000, which is a continuation-in-part of U.S. Serial No. 09/138,830, filed August 24, 1998, which claimed priority of 60/185,561, February 28, 2000. Applicants claim priority to all of the applications in the chain.

Claims 1-29 and 36 have been canceled. Claim 30 has been amended. Thus, claims 30-35 are pending in the application.

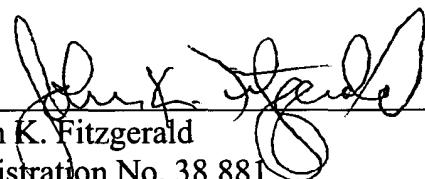
It is respectfully requested that the application be examined at the earliest possible convenience.

Please charge or credit any additional fees payable in connection with this Amendment to our Deposit Account No. 06-2425.

Respectfully submitted,

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